IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Cancel claims 1-18 and replaced with new claims 19 – 53.

19. (New) An tissue anchor comprising a rigid, biocompatible, elongate member of about 0.4 to about 3 millimeters in cross-section and which forms an open, helical structure having a length from about 3 millimeters to about 75 millimeters, and an inner diameter of from about 1.5 millimeters to about 15 millimeters, a slope from about 0.5 to about 10 turns per centimeter and having at a first end an insertion tip and at a second end a modular attachment head which cooperates with said open helical structure for attachment in tissue and which is capable of being countersunk in tissue.

20. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 19 wherein elongate member comprises one or more of titanium, surgical grade steel, or a bioabsorbable material.

21. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 19 wherein the modular head includes a recess for driving the anchor into the tissue.

22. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 21 wherein the recess forms a hexagon.

23. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 19 wherein the elongate member forms a seat for the head.

24. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 23 wherein the seat is a ring.

25. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 24 wherein the ring is less than a complete circle.

26. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 24 wherein the ring is a complete circle.

27. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 24 wherein the ring has the same outer diameter as the open, helical structure.

28. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 19 wherein the open helical member is inserted into bone.

29. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 19 wherein the modular head includes an opening which will receive a suture.

30. (New) An tissue anchor comprising a rigid, biocompatible, elongate member of titanium, surgical grade steel, or a bioabsorbable material and of about 0.4 to about 3 millimeters in cross-section and which forms an open, helical structure having a length from about 3 millimeters to about 75 millimeters, and outer diameter of from about 1.5 millimeters to about 15 millimeters, a slope from about 0.5 to about 10 turns per centimeter and having at a first end an insertion tip and at a second end a modular attachment head which cooperates with said open helical structure for attachment in tissue.

31. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 30 wherein the modular head includes a recess for driving the anchor into the tissue.

32. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 31 wherein the recess forms a hexagon.

33. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 30 wherein the elongate member forms a seat for the head.

34. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 33 wherein the seat is a ring.

35. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 34 wherein the ring is less than a complete circle.

36. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 33 wherein the ring is a complete circle.

37. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 33 wherein the ring has the same outer diameter as the open, helical structure.

38. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 30 wherein the open helical member is inserted into bone.

39. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 30 wherein the modular head includes an opening which will receive a suture.

40. (New) A tissue anchor comprising an assembly of a rigid, biocompatible, elongate member of about 0.4 to about 3 millimeters in cross-section and which forms an open, helical structure having a length from about 3 millimeters to about 75 millimeters, and an inner diameter of a constant dimension of from about 1.5 millimeters to about 15 millimeters, a slope from about 0.5 to about 10 turns per centimeter and having at a first end an insertion tip, and a second end which is assembled to a torque driving head.

41. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 40 wherein the torque driving head includes a recess for driving the anchor into the tissue.

42. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 41 wherein the recess forms a hexagon.

43. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 40 wherein the elongate member forms a seat for the head.

44. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 43 wherein the seat is a ring.

45. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 44 wherein the ring is less than a complete circle.

46. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 43 wherein the ring is a complete circle.

47. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 43 wherein the ring has the same outer diameter as the open, helical structure.

48. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 40 wherein the open helical member is inserted into bone.

49. (New) A tissue anchor as set forth in claim 40 wherein the modular head includes an opening which will receive a suture.

50. (New) A method of making a tissue anchor comprising the steps of

forming a helix comprising a rigid, biocompatible, elongate member of about 0.4 to about 3 millimeters in cross-section and which forms an open, helical structure having a length from about 3 millimeters to about 75 millimeters, and an inner diameter of a constant dimension of from about 1.5 millimeters to about 15 millimeters, a slope from about 0.5 to about 10 turns per centimeter and having at a first end an insertion tip,

separately forming a head that is assembled with the helix at a point on the helix longitudinally opposing the insertion tip; and

assembling the helix and the head to form the tissue anchor.

51. (New) A method as set forth in claim 50 wherein the helix is made from titanium or stainless steel wire.

52. (New) A method as set forth in claim 51 wherein the wire has a second end formed into a seat for the head.

53. (New) A method as set forth in claim 52 wherein the seat is a ring formed in the wire and the head has the same outer diameter as the helix.